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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Georg BINDER ET AL - 1 PCT

SERIAL NO.: 10/553,861 GROUP: 1725

FILED: October 20, 2005

TITLE: GAS NOZZLE FOR A WELDING TORCH, WELDING TORCH, AND  
CLEANING DEVICE FOR A WELDING TORCH

SECOND SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

**MAIL STOP AMENDMENT**

Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Supplemental to the Information Disclosure Statement filed on October 20, 2005, and the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement dated August 30, 2007, Applicants would like to submit herewith English abstracts of JP 53-062749 and DE 1 521 918. Copies of these two non-English references were previously submitted with Applicants' Information Disclosure Statement dated August 30, 2007.

JP 53-062749 A has been cited by an Examiner of the Austrian Patent Office regarding a gas nozzle according to claims 1-4. The

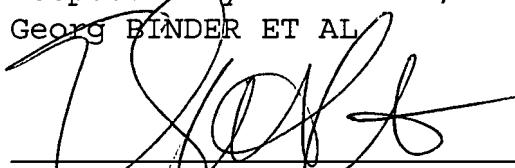
Examiner did not issue a Search Report with a categorization of the cited documents. Nevertheless, in the first examination report (1. Vorhescheid) issued by the Austrian Patent Office on March 24, 2004, the Examiner stated that this document, namely *JP 53-062749 A*, shows the farer state of the art only (like DE 44 26 303 Cl, DE 195 07 472 C2 and DE 201 00 126 U cited in the introductory part of the description). The Japanese reference shows a coating for a gas nozzle enabling a faster heat transmission of electrodes spatters. The examiner of the Austrian Patent Office therefore classified the category of this Japanese reference as A'-- document.

*DE 1 521 918 A* cited from the European Patent Office during the examination proceedings of the corresponding European Patent Application describes a coating for parts of a welding torch made of copper or a copper alloy to avoid contamination by molten metal spatters. According to this invention the parts of the welding torch will be submerged in a hot aqueous solution including alkali from the group of sodium hydroxide or kalium hydroxide and a chloride from the group of sodium chloride.

Because this Supplemental IDS is being filed before a first Office Action on the merits, it is believed that no fee is required. However, if a fee should be required for this IDS, the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks is hereby authorized to charge any required fee, or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 03-2468.

It is respectfully requested that the foregoing Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) be incorporated into the official file of the present patent application.

Respectfully submitted,  
Georg BINDER ET AL

  
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: MAIL STOP AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA, on September 12, 2007.

  
Amy Klein